

trail to the mine crossed the cañon diagonally upward, from this hut, and the ascent of the mountain commenced just below a jutting point of rock, the top of which was about breast-high above the trail at that point. On the top of this rock, which was covered by a little stony soil, grew the plants referred to. With the exception of a few plants of *Koeleria cristata* Pers. and *Arabis Holboellii* Hornem., nothing else was in bloom in the immediate vicinity. Just above was a dense growth of *Arctostaphylos pungens* H.B.K., and some shrubby oaks. In the open, sunny ground across the cañon were scattered clumps of the last named, just coming into bloom, as well as of *Eriodictyon californicum* Decne. in full bloom, with numerous tufts of *Carphochaeta Bigelovii* Gray. Along the small brook were large trees of *Alnus oblongifolia* Torr., *Platanus Wrightii* Wats., *Populus Wislizeni* (Wats.) Sarg., and *Quercus Emoryi* Torr. (?), and underneath them, close to the banks of the stream, such plants as *Habenaria sparsiflora* Wats., *Aquilegia chrysantha* Gray, *Thalictrum Fendleri* Engelm., and various Pentstemons. Among the stones near the brook grew *Thlaspi alpestre* L. and one or two Thelypodiums. Farther up the cañon, where the country was very rough and precipitous, grew, among other conifers, the very handsome *Cupressus arizonica* Greene, though the specimens were not numerous. The entire region was evidently one of great botanical interest for anyone who could be there after the advent of the rainy season. Possibly the *Dudleya* might then be more abundant, though its appearance was that of a distinctly vernal plant.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLUB

JANUARY 31, 1906

This meeting was held at the New York Botanical Garden. President Rusby presided, and 27 persons were present. The following persons were elected to membership: Richard H. Allen, Chatham, N. Y.; H. R. Bishop, Chappaqua, N. Y.; Albert Calman, 450 West End Ave., N. Y. City; Charles L. Chase, 343 West 87th St., N. Y. City; Dr. Alfred Meyer, 785

Madison Ave., N. Y. City ; Gifford Pinchot, Washington, D. C. ; E. L. Rogers, 58 West 47th St., N. Y. City ; Charles E. Seiter, 100 William St., N. Y. City ; Dr. George T. Stevens, 22 East 46th St., N. Y. City.

President Rusby appointed as a finance committee Judge Addison Brown, and Prof. H. M. Richards. An invitation was read from the American Philosophical Society of Philadelphia, to attend their celebration of the 200th anniversary of the birth of Benjamin Franklin. A motion that the Club accept the honor of the invitation was made and carried, and President Rusby was delegated to represent the Club at the celebration.

Resignations were read and accepted from Miss Nina L. Marshall and Mr. C. C. Doorly.

In response to an inquiry from the recording secretary concerning the duties of that officer, a motion was made that the president, secretary, treasurer, and editor-in-chief be appointed a committee to revise the constitution and by-laws and report at the earliest possible time. The motion was carried.

The resignation of Dr. D. T. MacDougal from the editorial staff was read, and, on motion, accepted.

The Board of Editors were elected a Budget committee for the ensuing year.

Dr. Britton exhibited the photographic reproduction of the "Dioscurides Codex Aniciae Julianae picturis illustratus, nunc Vindobonensis Med. Gr. I," recently acquired by the library of the New York Botanical Garden.

This work is of importance in the study of the history of botany, on account of the large number of illustrations of plants which are for the most part based on originals presumably of the fifth century, and are now here reproduced in fac-simile for the first time. The original MS. is one of the treasures of the Imperial Library of Vienna. It is said to date from 512 A. D., and was written and the miniatures painted for the princess Anicia Juliana, of Byzantium, and is the basis of all the early herbals. The work is Vol. 10 of the "Codices Graeci et Latini Photographici Depicti," a series of reproductions of valuable manuscripts issued under the editorial supervision of Dr. de Vries, the librarian of the

University of Leyden. It consists of two folio volumes bound in heavy oak boards and is a faithful facsimile of the celebrated original, reproducing it down to the smallest fragment. The plates are of great beauty and remarkable for a certain vigorous distinction and decorative character that illustrators of the present day would do well to study. Not the least interesting are the miniatures showing groups of physicians and botanists in conclave, painters at work on plant pictures, the portrait of the lady Juliana herself, and lastly a most beautiful ornamental title page. Historical prefatory and descriptive matter are by Anton von Premerstein, Carl Wessely, and Joseph Mantuani.

Previous to the present reproduction, plates of this MS. were prepared under the supervision of Jacquin, two impressions of which are known to be in existence, the one having been in the possession of Linnaeus is now in the library of the Linnean Society of London; the other was sent to Sibthorp to be used in the compiling of his *Flora Graeca*. This latter copy is now preserved at Oxford.

The first paper on the program as announced was by Professor L. M. Underwood, on "Six new Fern Genera in the United States." Professor Underwood gave a brief account of the additions to the fern flora of the United States since the year 1900. Six genera and over forty species are included in the list, which also includes several species new to science. The list will appear in the *Bulletin* for March. The genera new to the country, and some of the more interesting species, were exhibited. The paper was discussed by President Rusby and Dr. Murrill.

The second paper was by Mr. H. A. Gleason, entitled, "Notes on the Flora of Southern Illinois." The southern portion of Illinois is crossed by an eastern prolongation of the Ozark Mountains, which have a marked influence on the rainfall. The flora is characterized by the presence of about four hundred species of distinctively southern plants, constituting three separate floras, each of which has entered the State from a different direction. Of these, the most sharply defined is the coastal plain flora which has entered the region by migrating up the Mississippi River from the south. The extensive cypress swamps

are largely composed of coastal species. An Alleghenian element has crossed the highland region of Kentucky and southern Indiana, and is well represented in Illinois in the area of heavy rainfall along the Ozark hills, the third is a southwestern flora, characterized mainly by xerophilous species. They have migrated along the Ozark uplift through Missouri, but in Illinois they have for the most part left the hills for the arid region just to the north. The three migration routes all follow ecological isotones and the three floras are never associated.

The last paper was by Mr. R. S. Williams on "Plant Collecting in the Philippines." The speaker gave some account of his recent botanical journey to the islands. Leaving Seattle in September, 1903, the steamer went by the northern route, passing in sight of snow-covered mountains in the Aleutian islands some half way over and reaching Yokohama after a voyage of sixteen days. The boat touched at various ports in Japan, remaining for a day or two at each place. The southern islands are nearly destitute of forests, and although appearing green and fertile from a distance, are often covered with only a low species of bamboo grass that no domestic animal can eat, so that horses, cattle, etc., are scarcely to be seen. From Japan the boat went to Shanghai. This city, seventeen miles up the Yang Tse Kiang, is in the latitude of northern Florida, and among other sights along the low river-banks are to be seen low straw huts scattered about the fields in which are preserved the thin layers of ice that form over the shallow pools in winter. From Shanghai the steamer proceeded to Hongkong, where a smaller boat was taken for Manila, which place was reached in thirty-four days out from Seattle. Mr. Williams shortly crossed over Manila Bay to the Lamao River, one of the streams descending from Mt. Mariveles, where several months were spent in collecting. The locality proved to be one of the easiest to get about in of any visited in the islands, more or less open forests extending from a few miles back from the coast almost to the mountain summit, some 4,200 feet above sea-level. The higher slopes about this mountain are more or less inhabited by Negritos, considered to be the earliest settlers of the Philippines. They are a race of low slender

stature, with short curly hair, and obtain a precarious living while wandering through the forests. They are excellent tree climbers and most useful to the collector if they can be induced to work. From this region Mr. Williams went to the town of Baguio, some one hundred and fifty miles northward, and at an elevation of 5,000 feet, remaining till the beginning of 1905. During the summer of 1904 the heaviest rainfall on record for the islands was encountered, one hundred and thirty-nine inches falling in the months of June, July, August, and September. Going southward from this place, the time from January to July was chiefly spent in the island of Mindanao, first collecting near Zamboanga in the southwest part, then in the southeastern country about the Gulf of Davao and Mount Apo. This mountain is one of the highest in the islands, nearly 10,000 feet, and proved a most interesting field where a lifetime, rather than a few months, could be spent in exploring its often almost inaccessible mountain sides, cañons and streams. On returning to Manila from Mindanao, the boat stopped at Jolo, the chief town of the Sulu Archipelago, for a few days, and here the last collecting of the trip was done before returning to the United States.

Professor Underwood was asked to act as delegate to the Council of the Scientific Alliance for 1906.

The meeting adjourned until the second Tuesday in February.

C. STUART GAGER,
Recording Secretary.

NEWS ITEMS

Dr. A. B. Rendle has been appointed keeper of the botanical department of the British Museum in the place of Mr. George Murray, who has recently resigned.

The spring course of lectures in the Wagner Free Institute of Science of Philadelphia includes ten lectures on "North American Trees" by Dr. John W. Harshberger, of the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Forrest Shreve, Adam T. Bruce fellow in biology in Johns Hopkins University, has been appointed professor of biology in